

# Winter games, arts festival, highlight March

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The week of March 14 through 20 will be a busy one in Fairbanks as residents from throughout the North gather in that city to participate in the Arctic Winter Games, the Festival of Native Arts, the North American Sled dog championships, annual meetings of the Tanana Chiefs Conference and Doyon, Ltd., and for the Fairbanks' Native Association's annual potlatch.

Approximately 1,000 participants are expected to take part in the 15 sports categories which will be included in the Arctic Winter Games. Highlighting the games will be a variety of Native sports, such as the one-foot high kick, the two-feet high kick, the kneel jump, the one hand reach and rope gymnastics.

Other sports events will include basketball, cross-country skiing, figure skating, gymnastics, hockey, curling, indoor soccer, judo, shooting, snowshoeing, table tennis, volleyball and badminton.

The Festival of Native Arts will be held at the University of Alaska from March 15-19. Native dancers from throughout the state will be featured, including groups from Northway, Barrow, Kotzebue, Bethel, Kaltag, Emmonak, Yakutat, Hydaburg, Haines, Koliganek, Tyonek and possibly elsewhere. Story tellers will also show off their skills.

Interior art and craftwork, such as Athabascan skin sewing and craftweaving, will also be demonstrated during the festival. The events are tentatively slated to take place in the Concert Hall, although the schedules have yet to be finalized.

The dog sled finals will be held March 20 and 21, featuring races up to 30 miles in length.

The Tanana Chiefs will hold their meetings at the Travelers Inn, March 16-18. Elections will be held, and problems involving state and Native

governmental relationships discussed. Doyon stockholders will meet Friday, March 19, and will elect four members to the board of directors, and take care of other corporation business.

More than 1,000 people are expected at the Fairbanks Native Association Potlatch, which will be held March 20 at 5 p.m. in the Lathrop High School Gymnasium. Traditional foods will be donated by individuals from throughout the Fairbanks area. Highlighting the event will be the Princess and baby contests. Entrants in the princess contest must be at least one-fourth Alaska Native or American Indian, a 30-day resident of Fairbanks, between the ages of 18 and 24, and never have been married or had children.

Babies must also be one-fourth or more Native or Indian blood, 30-day residents, and must be between the ages of six months and 24 months old.